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S H O C H I K U

KABUKI DANCING PLAY

"KIOI JISHI"

(Festival Lion-Dancing)

To be presented by Ennosuke Troupe at the

Dai Ichi Theater in February 1947

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Synopsis:

At the festival of Sanno Shrine a large number of people living in the same street, such as firemen, festival dancers etc, gather in front of the altar. They rest from their fatigue having carried about the sacred palanquin at the festival and show various interesting accomplishments one after another.

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The stage indicates the altar at the festival of Sanno Shrine against distant street houses on the both sides of the stage.

To the left side large festival lanterns are hanging and to the right tokiwazu reciters are sitting in a row, all these things representing the air of the festival of Sanno Shrine at Ginza Street.

The curtain rises with the sound of drums and tokiwazu reciting starts expressing the crowded scene of the festival.

From the right side of the stage, firemen, Kikumatsu, Enta and Otokichi make their appearance carrying line-masks. From the opposite side festival dancers Otaki, Fumikichi, Okaji, Tsurukichi, Ichimatsu, Tamaji enter accompanied by persons living in the same street, Mankichi and Sensusuke with big fans.

Kikumatsu: (To the festival dancers) Thank you very much for your trouble.



- Enta: I am glad that the festival of this year was en fete through your efforts.
- Otokichi: Due to your presence, we feel very proud compared with the festival at other streets.
- Otaki: Don't mention it. Hearing it, I feel rather ashamed. On the contrary, we must be grateful to you.
- Fumikichi: I could barely discharge my duties under Otaki-san's guidance.
- Kaji: By the way, Kamekichi and Masaji have not yet come, have they?
- Tsurukichi: As they are very popular, they must be in great demand here and there.
- Ichimatsu: Indeed! Everybody will be fascinated with their smartness.
- Mankichi: Talk of angels and you will hear their wings. There, they are coming.
- Otaki: Say, Fumikichi-chan, call them here, please.
- Fumikichi: I think, it is better for these persons to call them.
- Otokichi: It's troublesome. All right, the two of us will call. Hallo, brothers!
- (With tokiwazu reciting the firemen Kamekichi and Masaji make their appearance through the stage passage)
- Kamekichi: Good afternoon, everybody. Thank you very much for your trouble, today.
- Masaji: Now that all of us have gathered here, let's make merry.



All: Well, it's a good idea

(All of them clap their hand)

Taki: By the way, I should like to hear the master's favourite ditty.

Kaji: Just I was going to request.

Tsurukichi: Well please

All: Let us hear quickly.

Kikumatsu: All right. It would be a disgrace to a native Tokyoite to decline your request.

(Kikumatsu sings his favourite ditty and dances a festival dance to tokiwazu reciting.)

Otaki: Say, Master. Will you please recite "Story of Soga Brothers", two of you together?

Kamekichi: Well. Then, as usual .....

Masaji: Fortunately to-day is the festival of Sanno Shrine.

Kamekichi: Now let's recite the "story of Soga Brothers".

The two: All right.

(Tokiwazu reciting starts telling the "Story of Soga Brothers", and Kamekichi and Masaji dance to the reciting with interesting movements of their hands)

Otaki: Your dance is as fascinating as ever indeed.

Kaji: Now, please play something next everybody.

Kikumatsu: How can we perform after masters' having danced so splendidly?

Enta: I must beg to be excused.

Taki: Don't say such a thing, please. I ask you to play something.

Ichimatsu: Well, there is no help for it. Then we will perform for mere form's sake.

(With tokiwazu reciting Ichimatsu, Enta and Kikumatsu dance imitating figures of various animals such as elephant, rabbit, lion tiger, etc. Otaki and Fumikichi step forward and dance together with comic gestures.

Meanwhile Kamekichi and Masaji wear lion's masks and dance to tokiwazu reciting)

----- THE CURTAIN -----